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Application :	09632393	Examiner :	Tsegaye	GAU :	2662
From:	NPB	Location:	IDC FMF FDC	Date:	11/30/05

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[RUSH] MESSAGE: Please provide missing Serial numbers on page 1, lines 12 and 14. (docket no. is listed instead of a Serial numbers).

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REV 10/04

CIRCUIT INTEGRITY IN A PACKET-SWITCHED NETWORK

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application claims the benefit of priority

5   of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/147,462, filed

August 6, 1999, and incorporated herein by reference.

The following U.S. Patent Applications, filed

concurrently with this application and assigned to the

assignee of this application, are incorporated herein by

10   reference: (1) ``Communications Using Hybrid Circuit-
Serial Number 09/633523 filed
Switched and Packet-Switched Networks,'' ~~[attorney docket~~
8/4/2000
~~no. 06269-022001 (PA080035)]~~ and (2) ``Bandwidth Management

in a Communications System Using Circuit-Switched and
Serial Number 09633524 filed 8/6/2000
Packet-Switched Networks,'' ~~[attorney docket no. 06269-~~

15   ~~025001 (PA090005)]~~.

BACKGROUND

The invention relates to circuit integrity in a packet-

switched network.

20   System Signal 7 (SS7) messages are often used to

provide control signals in various telecommunications

systems, such as telephone systems, and provide a mechanism,

known as continuity check, for checking the integrity of a

circuit between two switching network endpoints during call

25   setup. Continuity checks originally were developed for

analog facilities and consist, for example, of a frequency

tone transmitted by the originating exchange and looped back